

# COVID-19 Vaccine Information Brief

January 29, 2021

Changes to the document from the previous version are highlighted in yellow.

## Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States

CDC released updated clinical guidance related to mRNA vaccines. The updated guidance can be found at [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States | CDC](#).

Summary of recent changes (last updated January 21, 2021):

- Updated recommendations on intervals between the first and second dose
- Updated recommendations on interchangeability of vaccine products
- Updated language on vaccination of persons with a history of SARS-CoV-2 infection
- New vaccination recommendations in persons with a history of dermal fillers
- Additional resources on vaccine excipients (Appendix B)

## Updated Pre-Vaccination Screening Form in Spanish

- [Prevaccination Screening Form- English](#)
- [Prevaccination Screening Form-Spanish](#)

## COVID-19 Vaccination Communication Toolkits

- For Medical Centers, Clinics, Pharmacies, and Clinicians
- For Healthcare Professionals and Pharmacists
- For LTCF Administrators and Leadership
- For Employers of Essential Workers
- For Staff of Organizations Serving Communities

## VaxText<sup>SM</sup> COVID-19 Vaccination Second-Dose Reminder

The [VaxText text messaging](#) resource is a free, no cost to the provider or patient, service for vaccine recipients if a text or email reminder system is not in place. By texting ENROLL to 1-833-VaxText (829-8398), vaccine recipients can opt in to receive a weekly text reminder for their second dose of COVID-19 vaccine or a reminder for when they are overdue for their second dose, in English or Spanish.

The VaxText<sup>SM</sup> text messaging service will ask vaccine recipients who participate for basic vaccination information (i.e., vaccination date, COVID-19 vaccine name) so it can provide reminders based on the correct vaccination schedule (e.g., 21 or 28 days between first and second doses). The VaxText<sup>SM</sup> service will not collect any personally identifiable information or personal health information from users and users can opt out or stop receiving messages at any time, even after they enroll.

Vaccine recipients that participate will also receive information on COVID-19 vaccines, links to additional information on the CDC website and a prompt to sign up for v-safe, CDC's new active vaccine safety monitoring system. **Simply ask vaccine recipients to text ENROLL to 1-833-VaxText (829-8398) to start getting their weekly second dose reminders.**

### **Pfizer Ancillary Kits Upgraded to Support 6th Dose**

Initial ancillary supply kits assembled and distributed only contained supplies to administer 5 doses per vial. CDC will begin shipment of enhanced kits the week of January 19, 2021 with enough supplies to administer a total of 6 doses per vial.

No action is required to receive the enhanced ancillary supply kits. There will be no difference in box size/shape for the enhanced kits, and there will be no change in the email alerts/tracking/shipping Notifications. The *Product Information Guide for COVID-19 Vaccine and Associated Products* has been updated to include this information and is available [here](#).

### **Iowa Department of Public Health Vaccine Shortage Order**

The [Phase 1B Supplemental Vaccine Shortage Order](#) shortage order has been updated effective January 21, 2021. Iowa Healthcare providers shall only vaccinate persons who are included in a priority designation which has been activated by IDPH. Healthcare providers are prohibited from vaccinating any persons not included in a priority designation.

### **Disposal and Reporting of Nonviable COVID-19 Vaccine**

It is critical to account for every dose of COVID-19 vaccine, even doses that have expired or been wasted. The COVID-19 vaccination provider agreement states the provider must dispose of wasted COVID-19 vaccines according to the jurisdiction's procedures. Sites should dispose of COVID-19 vaccine waste in accordance with local regulations and processes currently used to dispose of regulated medical waste. In addition, COVID-19 vaccine program requirements include providers reporting wastage (e.g., unused, spoiled, or expired) information to IRIS. IRIS instructions on [Adjusting COVID-19 Vaccine Inventory for Wastage](#) are available on the Vaccine webpage.

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Data Visualization**

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) is sharing data on statewide COVID-19 vaccine administration. These updates will be published each week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Reports will initially be static visualizations, including high-level information on vaccine administration totals, as well as county-level information. The current update and future dashboard will be housed on the existing <https://coronavirus.iowa.gov> website [here](#). Iowa is currently performing amongst the highest in the nation for vaccine administration compared to the number of vaccine doses allocated. The CDC is tracking state vaccine information can be found [here](#).

## CDC COVID Data Tacker

CDC has released the COVID Data Tracker. The [Vaccinations tab](#) on the tracker shows overall US COVID-19 vaccine distribution and administration. State views for total doses distributed are also available.

## COVID-19 Vaccine Medicaid Billing and Rates

DHS and Iowa Medicaid Enterprise released a [letter](#) to update providers regarding billing and coding for the administration fee of COVID-19 vaccines. At this time, there is no charge for the vaccine as it is being acquired and distributed by the federal government. **IME will pay for COVID-19 vaccine administration at the Medicare rate of \$16.94 for the initial dose and \$28.39 for the second dose.** Both COVID-19 vaccines currently approved consist of a two-dose series. **For any single dose COVID-19 vaccines released in 2021, IME will provide payment at the Medicare rate of \$28.39 to administer the vaccine.** Roster billing will not be available for providers. The [IDPH Billing Memo](#) for COVID-19 Vaccine Cost, Billing, and Reimbursement has been updated to include this information.

## Additional Doses of COVID-19 Vaccine per Vial

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has advised it is acceptable to use every full dose of COVID-19 vaccine obtainable from each vial of vaccine. However, since the COVID-19 vaccines do not contain preservatives, it is critical to note any further remaining vaccine that does not constitute a full dose should not be pooled from multiple vials to create a dose. [IRIS instructions](#) are available to determine if additional vaccine inventory adjustments are required. Contact the IRIS Help Desk at 800-374-3958 with questions regarding vaccine inventory.

## Moderna Clinical Guidance

- Moderna Call Center - available 8am to 8pm EST, Monday-Friday @ 1-866-663-3762
- [Letter of Authorization](#)
- [EUA Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers Administering Vaccine](#)
- [EUA Fact Sheet for Vaccine Recipients and Caregivers](#)
- [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine webpage](#)
- [Interim Clinic Considerations for Use of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Preparation and Administration Summary](#)
- [Freezer Temperature Log- Fahrenheit](#)
- [Freezer Temperature Log- Celsius](#)
- [Translations of EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Clinical FAQs](#)
- [Expiration date tracker](#)

- [Beyond use date tracking labels for refrigerator storage](#)
  - [Vaccine storage and handling summary](#)
  - [Vaccine storage and handling labels](#)
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## **Pfizer Clinical Guidance**

- Pfizer Call Center - available 8am to 8pm EST, Monday-Friday @ 1-800-438-1985
- [Letter of Authorization](#)
- [EUA Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers Administering Vaccine](#)
- [EUA Fact Sheet for Vaccine Recipients and Caregivers](#)
- [Translations of EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers](#)
- [Pfizer FAQs Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine webpage](#)
- [Interim Clinic Considerations of Use of Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- [Interim Considerations: Preparing for the Potential Management of Anaphylaxis at COVID-19 Vaccination Sites](#)
- [Pre-Vaccination Screening Form for Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- [Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Preparation and Administration Summary](#)
- [Ultra-Cold Temperature Log- Fahrenheit](#)
- [Ultra-Cold Temperature Log - Celsius](#)
- [Pfizer On Demand Training](#) - self-paced training module for healthcare professionals administering Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. Continuing education is available.

## **[CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Information for Consumers](#)**

- [What to expect at your vaccination appointment](#)
- [What to expect after getting vaccinated](#)
- [Benefits of Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- [How COVID-19 Vaccines Work](#)
- [Myths and Misconceptions about COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination](#)

## **V-safe After Vaccination Health Checker**

V-safe is a smartphone-based tool that uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after an individual receives a COVID-19 vaccination. V-safe web pages feature information on how to register and complete a v-safe health check-in (including step-by-instructions with images), troubleshooting, FAQs, and contact information for technical support. These web pages will be continuously updated with additional resources.

- V-safe information sheet and poster: Posted on the Vaccine webpage and available in 5 languages: English, Spanish, Korean, Vietnamese, and Simplified Chinese
- [V-safe after vaccination health checker website](#)

- [V-Safe Print Resources](#)
- [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#)

## CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Resources

- [COVID-19 Vaccination Planning resources for healthcare professionals](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccines and Severe Allergic Reactions](#)
- [Vaccination Considerations for People who are Pregnant or Breastfeeding](#)
- [CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Website](#)
- [COVID-19 ACIP Vaccine Recommendations](#)
- [Toolkit for Medical Centers, Clinics, and Clinicians](#)
- [Engaging in Effective COVID-19 Vaccine Conversations](#)
- [Toolkit for Medical Centers, Clinics, and Clinicians](#)
- [Answering Patient Questions](#)
- [Post-vaccination considerations for healthcare personnel](#)
- [Post-vaccination considerations for long-term care residents](#)
- [Ensuring COVID-19 Vaccines Work | CDC](#)
- [Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [How CDC Is Making COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations | CDC](#)
- [Vaccine Education and Training for Healthcare Professionals | CDC](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination Resources](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Training Module for Healthcare Providers](#)
- [Best Practices on Vaccine Storage and Handling](#)
- [Different COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

## IDPH COVID-19 Vaccination Resources

- **Iowa Department of Public Health Statewide Standing Order for COVID-19 Vaccination**
  - The Standing Order has been updated as of December 30, 2020. This has been sent to enrolled COVID-19 Vaccine Providers and is available on the HAN.
  - Standing Order remains in effect in the State of Iowa until rescinded or until December 31, 2021
- **Iowa Department of Public Health Statewide Standing Order for COVID-19 Vaccination**
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  - Standing Order remains in effect in the State of Iowa until rescinded or until December 31, 2021
- [IDPH COVID-19 Vaccine Website](#) - Includes web-based training courses, videos, job aids and references regarding vaccine administration, general best practice guidelines for immunizations and vaccine storage and handling.

- [Administration of COVID-19 Vaccine - County/State of Residence Guidance](#) - This memo outlines the administration of COVID-19 vaccine by Iowa healthcare organizations to individuals regardless of permanent place of residence (county or state) or where the individual is seeking vaccination. In addition, receipt of COVID-19 vaccine does not require proof of U.S. citizenship. This is also available on HAN.
- **Consent Form Sample** - The Federal Government does not require consent for the administration of COVID-19 vaccine. This document has been emailed to all enrolled COVID-19 Vaccine Providers and is available on HAN.
- **Declination Form Sample** - A sample declination form is available to assist partners in the development of organization specific forms. This document has been emailed to all enrolled COVID-19 Vaccine Providers and is available on HAN.

## MMWRs and Interim Guidance

- On January 22, 2020 an MMWR article titled, ["Allergic Reactions Including Anaphylaxis After Receipt of the First Dose of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine – United States, December 21, 2020-January 10, 2021"](#) was published.
- On January 6, 2021 an MMWR article titled, ["Allergic Reactions Including Anaphylaxis After Receipt of the First Dose of Pfizer-BioTech COVID-19 Vaccine - United States, December 14-23, 2020"](#) was published.
- On December 20, 2020 an MMWR article titled, ["The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Interim Recommendation for Use of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine – United States, December 2020"](#) was published.
- On December 13, 2020 an MMWR article titled, ["The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Interim Recommendation for Use of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine – United States, December 2020"](#) was published.
- On December 13, 2020 an MMWR article titled, ["The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Interim Recommendation for Use of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine – United States, December 2020"](#) was published.
- On December 3, 2020 an MMWR article titled, ["The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Interims Recommendation for Allocating Initial Supplies of COVID-19 Vaccine - United States, 2020"](#) was published.
- The ["Interim Considerations for COVID-19 Vaccination of Healthcare Personnel and Long-Term Care Facility Residents"](#) was released.
- On November 23, an MMWR article titled ["The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Ethical Principles for Allocating Initial Supplies of COVID-19 Vaccine - United States, 2020"](#) was published.

## IDPH COVID-19 Vaccine Information Resources

- **COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center** - IDPH has established a healthcare provider COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center. To reach the COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center, call **1-800-831-6293, Option 1**.
  - **COVID-19 Vaccine Email** - IDPH has set up a COVID-19 Vaccine Email to respond specifically to questions from healthcare providers regarding COVID-19 vaccine. Vaccine questions can be emailed to: [COVID19Vaccine@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:COVID19Vaccine@idph.iowa.gov).
  - **COVID-19 Call Center for the General Public** - Questions from the general public regarding COVID-19 vaccines can be directed to 211.
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## COVID-19 Vaccine Planning

- **Pharmacy Partnership for Long-term Care (LTC) Program** - CDC is partnering with Community Pharmacy, CVS and Walgreens to offer on-site COVID-19 vaccination services for residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Facility staff will also be vaccinated with COVID-19 vaccine as part of this partnership. Information regarding the program can be found on the HAN Document Library, Pharmacy Partnership for LTC Program folder.
    - Pharmacies began vaccinating both SNF & ALF (residents and staff) on 12/28/2020
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## VaccineFinder

- IDPH will report vaccine inventory to [VaccineFinder](#) for all Iowa enrolled COVID-19 vaccine providers. It is important for all providers to maintain an accurate vaccine inventory of COVID-19 vaccines in IRIS to allow for accurate reporting.
  - Optional: Providers may choose to make their location(s) visible on the public-facing VaccineFinder website to increase access to vaccines once supply is available to the public. This does **NOT** replace reporting doses administered to IRIS within 24 hours of administration.
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## Federal Pharmacy Partnership Strategy for COVID-19 Vaccination Program

- HHS is partnering with pharmacies to increase access to COVID-19 vaccine supply increases and vaccines are recommended beyond the initial populations. Pharmacy partners will sign the COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Agreement at the federal level.
  - Pharmacy partners will directly order and receive allocation of COVID-19 vaccine from the federal government. Timing and scale of activation (how many partners, how many stores) will depend on various factors, including vaccine supply.
  - Activation based on a national scale, with select pharmacy partners directly ordering COVID-19 vaccine from CDC. CDC is working to activate the program the week of February 8, 2021. .
  - Pharmacy partners must report COVID-19 vaccine inventory in each store via VaccineFinder and report COVID-19 vaccine doses administration to IRIS.
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## Additional Resources

- Below is contact information to help with addressing vaccine delivery issues.

I need help with...	Contact...
Pfizer vaccine shipment has a problem	Pfizer Customer Service Phone # (800) 666-7248 Email: <a href="mailto:cvgovernment@pfizer.com">cvgovernment@pfizer.com</a>
Pfizer ancillary kit has a problem	McKesson Customer Service Phone #: 833-272-6634 Email: <a href="mailto:SNSSupport@McKesson.com">SNSSupport@McKesson.com</a>
Moderna vaccine shipment has a problem	<b><u>Vaccine Viability – Temperature Excursions during shipment for McKesson Specialty Distributed COVID Vaccine</u></b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Supports calls/emails from provider/admin sites and awardee or federal/pharmacy ordering points of contact.</li> <li>2. Questions/concerns about vaccine viability issues during shipment must be reported on the <u>same day as delivery</u>.</li> </ol> <b>Phone:</b> (833) 272-6635 Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. ET <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:COVIDVaccineSupport@McKesson.com">COVIDVaccineSupport@McKesson.com</a> (only send email if after hours)
Moderna ancillary kit has a problem	Need to verify - McKesson Customer Service Phone #: 833-272-6634 Email: <a href="mailto:SNSSupport@McKesson.com">SNSSupport@McKesson.com</a>